



The SANGUINIST

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ON A WINNER

Too often we humans, through long association, allow ourselves to take the blessings that we have too much for granted. Especially can this be said of us Catholics. Through weeks and weeks we'll just go on "living" and reflect little on the blessings that are ours. Then something will come along that jolts us into a thinking mood. A little reflection brings us to the startling truth that we ARE lucky, that we are blessed to be in the Church, and that we really have our money on a winner!

A couple of the above mentioned "jolts" came these past few weeks. One came from Newsweek. It notes:



"Last year official Lutheranism began to view with alarm the growing popularity among Lutherans of the novena, the Roman Catholic custom of nine days of special prayer to obtain special graces. Some were actually attending Catholic novenas. Others were flocking to "Protestant novenas", a variation introduced by pastors in 50 Lutheran churches throughout the country. At its annual meeting last October, the United Lutheran Church, ...denounced the idea that God is 'reluctant to listen unless He is told very definitely nine consecutive times what is wanted....'"

Do you get that last remark?-- just as if Catholics did believe that God would listen only when invoked "nine consecutive times"! But that's beside the point. What is to be brought out is the fact that much of the ritual of Protestant denominations has simply been carried over from the Catholic Church of which many of them were once a part. Have they forgotten some? Are they coming back for some more? Not that we blame them, because if we were Protestants, we'd want novenas, too.

JOLT NUMBER 2

Frankly, it wasn't so much of a jolt. In fact, it was more or less to be expected. We read that (quoting O.S.V.):

"Winston Churchill, now Prime Minister of Great Britain, and First Lord of the Admiralty in England during World War I, admitted, according to testimony furnished the New York Enquirer, that the collapse of Russia, resulting in Communism, and the breakdown of Italy, resulting in Fascism, would have been prevented had the nations at war hearkened to the plea of Pope Benedict XV early in 1917."

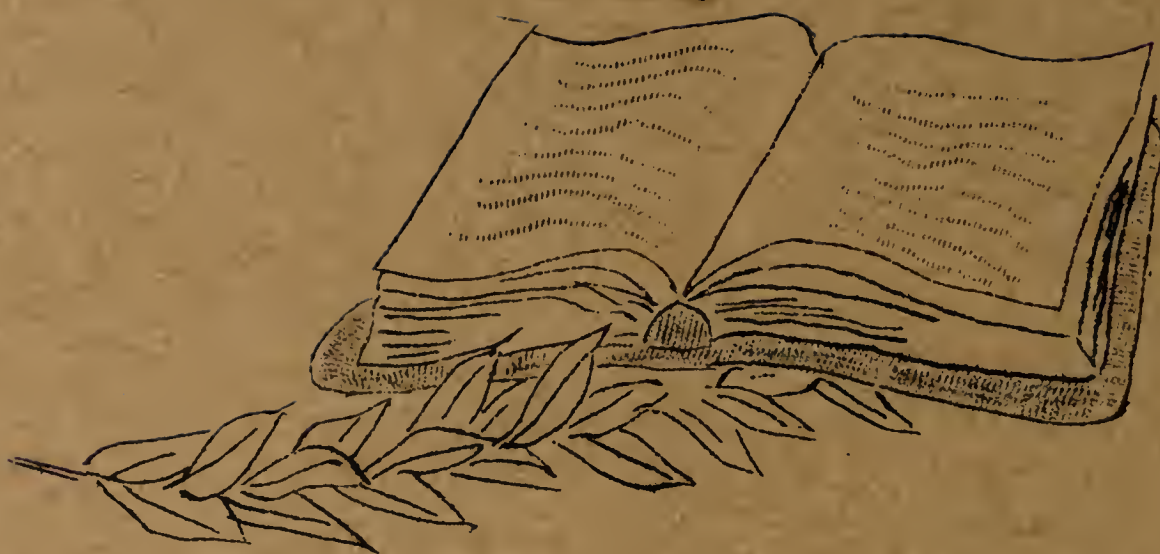
As said, it is not surprising. Hasn't the Church through her pontiffs time and time again raised her voice pleading for a peace based on the principles of justice and charity? She has! And we don't need Churchill to tell us that she IS right. But his statement does give a glow of satisfaction to us, and the comfortable feeling of "we told you so."

SPEAKING OF NOVENAS; SPEAKING OF PEACE

His Holiness, Pius XII, has once more sent abroad the calls for prayers for Peace. Indeed, every Catholic should regard it as a personal duty to pray for a quick end of this terrible slaughter-- with charity and justice triumphant. In accordance with the plea of the Pope, Catholic colleges and universities all over the country has resolved to hold a Novena for Peace to start on Ascension Thursday May 22, and to end on Pentecost Sunday, June 1. In conjunction with thousands of students all over the country, WILL YOU DO YOUR PART by Mass and Communion in the morning and Benediction in the evening? Let your Communion on Ascension Thursday start you off!

MAY DEVOTIONS

IT'S INSPIRING to see the number attending May devotions Sunday after Sunday increase. Those of you who have been attending continue to do so. Bring along one of your friends who has not been coming. These brief weekly devotions may bring you just the graces you need!



BIBLICAL SUNDAY

This Sunday, May 18, is being observed all over the United States as "Biblical Sunday". Its purpose is to call the attention of the faithful to the Sacred Scriptures which are a supreme treasure house; to commemorate the new revision of the Challoner-Rheims New Testament; to secure the distribution of the new authorized version among Catholics. This first revision in so long a time of the Almighty Author's sole written word should be accepted by all with genuine enthusiasm.

Catholics should remember that there is an indulgence granted to all those who read the Bible for at least fifteen minutes a day.

Prayers requested:

For the repose of the souls of

The Rev. Martin Krapf, C.P.P.S.

Father of the Rev. Walter Pax, C.P.P.S.

Sister M. Lydia, O.S.M.

For seniors who take their exams this week

For a special intention.